

## INNA HEKKER GRADE

MARCH 6, 1956.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered  
to be printed

Miss THOMPSON of Michigan, from the Committee on the Judiciary,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6955]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6955) for the relief of Chaim Grade and Inna Hekker Grade, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

On page 1, line 4, strike out "Chaim Grade and".

On page 1, beginning on line 6, after the date "September 14, 1948" strike out the comma and substitute a period and strike out the remainder of the bill.

#### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill, as amended, is to waive the residence requirement for citizenship in the case of Mrs. Inna Hekker Grade. The bill has been amended to delete the name of Chaim Grade.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Mrs. Inna Hekker Grade, was born in Russia on January 25, 1925. Her only entry into the United States was on September 14, 1948, when she was admitted as a visitor. Her status was subsequently changed, by the enactment of Private Law 427 (83d Cong), to that of a permanent resident as of September 28, 1954.

Certain pertinent facts in this case are contained in a letter, dated January 11, 1956, from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary. That letter, and accompanying memorandum, reads as follows:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,  
Washington, D. C., January 11, 1956.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (H. R. 6955) for the relief of Chaim Grade and Inna Hekker Grade, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiaries. This memorandum has been prepared from the Immigration and Naturalization Service files relating to the beneficiaries by the New York, N. Y., office of this Service, which has custody of those files.

The bill would provide that the beneficiaries shall be considered lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on September 14, 1948, upon payment of the required visa fees.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_, *Commissioner.*

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION  
SERVICE FILES RE CHAIM GRADE AND INNA HEKKER GRADE, BENEFICIARIES  
OF H. R. 6955

The male beneficiary, Chaim Grade, a native of Poland, was born on May 4, 1910. The female beneficiary, Inna Hekker Grade, a native of U. S. S. R., was born on January 25, 1925. They both claim to be stateless. Their only entry into the United States was at New York, N. Y., on September 14, 1948, when they were admitted as visitors for a temporary period. As a result of the enactment of private bill H. R. 732, 83d Congress, into Private Law 427 on June 18, 1954, the beneficiaries were admitted for permanent residence on September 28, 1954.

Mr. and Mrs. Grade were married in Russia on December 25, 1945. The male beneficiary's previous marriage terminated by the death of his first wife who was killed by the Nazis in 1943.

The male beneficiary advised that he attended Yeshiva colleges in Poland from 1922 to 1932. After his graduation as a rabbi, he followed the calling of a writer and poet. Mr. Grade stated that he has four brothers residing in this country, all United States citizens. Mrs. Grade testified that she has two uncles residing in the United States, both of whom are citizens of this country. She advised that she attended college in Russia for 3 years and attained the equivalent of a bachelor of arts degree. In the United States she attended the New School for Social Research for 2 years as well as Columbia University.

Mr. and Mrs. Grade reside at 100 Van Cortland Park South, New York, N. Y. The male beneficiary is engaged in lecturing and writing on Jewish culture and literature and is also employed as a columnist for the Jewish Morning Journal in New York City. His annual income is \$4,000. Mr. and Mrs. Grade have assets approximating \$7,000.

Mr. Walter, the author of this bill, appeared before a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary and recommended the enactment of his measure, as amended, pointing out to the fact that the female beneficiary has been awarded a scholastic grant by the John Hay Whitney Foundation. However, the grant will be available to her only in the event that she becomes an American citizen. In view of the fact she has resided in the United States since 1948 and considering the additional equity that she voluntarily appeared before the Select Committee on Communist Aggression of the House of Representatives and submitted very valuable testimony, Mr. Walter stressed that he feels she is deserving of having the date of her original entry validated for the purposes of expeditious naturalization.

In addition, Mr. Walter submitted the following letters in support of his bill:

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA,  
New York, N. Y., June 24, 1955.

HON. FRANCIS WALTER,  
*House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WALTER: I am writing to you at the request of Mr. and Mrs. Chaim Grade.

I have been a regular reader of Mr. Grade's articles in the Daily Jewish Press. His political views as they are mirrored in his writings are those of every respectable and law-abiding citizen of this country.

Since Mr. Grade is a learned man in ancient Rabbinic literature and he is an unusually gifted writer, I heartily recommend Mr. and Mrs. Grade for prospective citizenship of our country.

Respectfully yours,

SAUL LIEBERMAN,  
*Dean of the Rabbinical School and Post Graduate Departments of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.*

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE.  
New York, N. Y., August 5, 1955.

HON. FRANCIS E. WALTER,  
*New House Office Building, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WALTER: I have your wire of July 21, informing me that your bill, H. R. 6955 with regard to Chaim and Inna Grade could not be passed until the report came in from the Department of Justice.

A call today to the subcommittee office revealed that that report has not as yet come through. Frankly, I was a little amazed, because of the fact that they had had an excellent report when the original private bill for them went through last year, and I was certain that with the testimony given by Mrs. Grade before the Special Committee on Communist Aggression, that the matter would have been accelerated before the end of the session.

Nevertheless, Mrs. Grade, it seems, will have to surrender a scholastic grant given to her by the John Hay Whitney Foundation, amounting to some \$2,500, because she has not as yet become a citizen. I understand, however, that a letter from you, indicating that the matter will be given priority consideration, or reasonably so, at the next session of Congress, might be accepted by them, although I think you know that there is a section in the immigration law which states that a foundation may not give such an allocation to an alien, even though legally admitted.

I wonder if there is any way that this could be clarified, because it could be so helpful, as you know, to this fine person, who escaped from the Soviet Union, and who gave Congress and the Nation the benefit of her experiences, so that others might be able to know what is going on in that land of tyranny.

On another matter, I understand that the House Committee on Un-American Activities is going to issue appendix 6, or has by this time. Since I have been personally exposing Communist manifestations in this country for over 20 years, I wonder if it would be possible for you to see to it that I get a copy of that new index.

With many thanks for your kind help, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

WALTER L. KIRSCHENBAUM,  
*Director, Public Relations.*

Upon consideration of all the facts in this case, the committee is of the opinion that H. R. 6955, as amended, should be enacted and accordingly recommends that it do pass.



